## Message Text

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62.

**ACTION NEA-16** 

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 DRC-01 /128 W ------ 103664

R 111410Z SEP 74
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8895
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY TEL AMIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, EG

SUBJECT: SADAT'S REMARKS IN PORT SAID

1. MAIN STORY IN CAIRO PAPERS SEPT 11 IS SADAT'S MEETING WITH

RESIDENTS OF PORT SAID. REPORTEDLY, HE TOLD THEM "NEXT STEP" IS

GOI WITHDRAWAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH SC RES 242 AND REITERATED HIS JUNE 5 STATEMENT THAT SUEZ CANAL TOWNS ARE CONSIDERED TO BE IN HEARTLAND ('UMP) OF EGYPT, ADDING "I SHALL RETALIATE TO ANY AGGRESSION ON ANY OF THESE TOWNS BY STRIKING AT THE HEARTLAND OF ISHAEL". RESPONDING TO QUESTION BY FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT ASKING WHAT WOULD OCCUR IF GOE DOES NOT IMPLEMENT RES 242, SADAT REPLIED "WE SHALL WAGE WAR AGAIN". ASKED IF HE HOPES FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTION, PRESIDENT SADAT SAID THAT HE DOES.

2. PRESS STATES ALSO THAT PRESIDENT ISSUED FOLLOWING ORDERS: CAPACITY OF PORT SAID HARBOR TO BE INCREASED FROM 2400 TO 3000 TONS DAILY; ALL PORT SAID SCHOOLS TO BE REOPENED IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OCTOBER; 30 PERCENT INCREASE IN PAY TO SUEZ CANAL AUTHORITY EMPLOYEES

## WORKING ON REOPENING CANAL.

3. COMMENT: THERE IS NOTHING NEW IN SADAT'S COMMENTS. SIDELIGHT ON PRESS TREATMENT OF STORY WAS LARGE PICTURE ON ALL FRONT PAGES OF SADAT STANDING IN HIS CAR IN PORT SAID MOTORCADE FLANKED BY MINWAR AND PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR RAYYID MAR'I. SINCE OAR'I HAS NO GOE FUNCTION EVEN REMOTELY CONNECTED WITH CANAL, THIS PROMINENT POSITION CLOSE TO PRESIDENT SADAT, HIS CLOSE FREIND, WILL FEED VIEW CURRENT HERE THAT MAR'I IS SLATED FOR HIGH OFFICE--PERHAPS TO REPLACE VICE PRESIDENT FAWZI OR AS NEW PRIME MINISTER. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL MAR'I IS BELIEVED TO HAVE REFUSED PREMNERSHIP EARLIER THIS YEAR, IN PART BECAUSE HE FELT HIS SON'S RECENT MARRIAGE TO SADAT'S DAUGHTER COULD PROVOKE EMBARRASSING CHARGES OF NEPOTISM.

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

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